

withdrawal. Current counsel for all parties informed the Court at the conference that the parties desire to retain new counsel and not to proceed *pro se* in this matter. The Court notes that although individuals may proceed *pro se* in federal court, the City of Poteet, as an entity, may not. *See Memon v. Allied Domecq QSR*, 385 F.3d 871, 873 (5th Cir. 2004) (explaining that corporations must have representation in federal court or face default"); *Lattanzio v. COMTA*, 481 F.3d 137, 140 (2d Cir. 2007) (explaining that partnerships and other entities must have representation in federal court or face default). Accordingly, if the City of Poteet chooses not to obtain new counsel, it leaves itself vulnerable to an entry of default and final default judgment, if pursued by Plaintiffs.

The Court will therefore grant the motions to withdraw and direct the parties to file either an advisory indicating they intend to proceed *pro se* or providing notice of representation by new counsel within 30 days. The Court will set this case for a status conference once new representation has been established.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Defendants' Motion to Withdraw [#17] and the Motion to Withdraw as Counsel for Plaintiffs [#18] are **GRANTED**. Withdrawing counsel are instructed to prepare a copy of their files and forward them to their respective clients' new counsel, once substitute counsel enters an appearance.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Law Office of Martin Golando, PLLC, is terminated as attorneys for Plaintiffs.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Molly G. Solis of the law firm of Davidson, Troilo, Ream & Garza, P.C. is terminated as attorney for Defendants.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that the parties file an advisory on or before **September 15, 2021**, regarding the retention of new counsel or the intention to proceed *pro se*.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

SIGNED this 16th day of August, 2021.



ELIZABETH S. ("BETSY") CHESTNEY
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE